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Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 003250-198

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) Request for Continued
Jean-Pierre WEBER (deceased) et al.) Examination
Application No. 09/126,897) Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
Filed: July 31, 1998) Group Art Unit 2631
For: Communication Using Spread) Examiner Kevin Michael Burd
Spectrum Methods over Optical) Confirmation No.: 9422
Fibers)

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on July 16, 2002, and in support of Applicants' Request for Continued Examination, please amend this application as follows.

In the Claims

Please ADD new claims 43, 44, and 45 as follows:

43. (New) A method of transferring an electrical digital signal from a first terminal on an optical fiber to a second terminal, the electrical digital signal incoming to the first terminal, the method comprising the sequential steps of:

in the first terminal:

spreading the electrical digital signal using a spread spectrum method to produce a spread electrical signal;

modulating the spread electrical signal on a subcarrier of a radio frequency to produce a modulated electrical signal of a first frequency range around the radio frequency of the subcarrier;

adding a control digital signal of a second frequency range comprising control information to the modulated electrical signal to provide a sum signal, frequencies of the first frequency range being higher than frequencies of the second frequency range;

converting the sum signal to an optical signal,